ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A packet separating section **103** separates TS packets having a designated PID from a first transport stream **TS1** and outputs them as a first TS packet string **P1** to a bit-rate

5   converting section **104**. On the other hand, the other TS packets are output as a second TS packet string **P2** to a buffer section **107**. The bit-rate converting section **104** converts the bit rate of the first TS packet string **P1** for output as a third TS packet string **P3**. The third TS packet

10   string **P3** is re-multiplexed with the second TS packet string **P2** by a packet multiplexing section **105**, and recorded onto a recording medium.